

# MEDIA ADVISORY

Wednesday, December 18, 2002

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## **AARP Members Will Urge Governor Pataki to Sign into Law “The Energy Consumer Protection Act of 2002”**

*Deadline approaches for the Governor to take action on the  
unanimously passed legislation.*

### **Background**

The Governor, by law, has until **Midnight, Friday, December 20, 2002, to either veto or approve** the “Energy Consumer Protection Act of 2002.”

### **The Energy Consumer Protection Act of 2002**

The proposed law, if approved by the Governor, would provide all residential ratepayers with the same consumer protections they currently enjoy from their public utility if they switch to a private energy service company (ESCO) for electric and/or natural gas service. The request for Governor Pataki to approve the bill comes at a time when the New York State Public Service Commission and New York’s public utilities are conducting major multi-media campaigns encouraging New Yorkers to switch and buy their gas or electric service from an ESCO instead of their public utility.

### **Who Has Requested Governor Pataki to Sign the Bill into Law?**

AARP, The ESCO Industry, The Public Utility Law Project, StateWide Senior Action Council, The Consumers Union; The National Consumer Law Center, The Consumer Federation of America, and the Consumer Energy Council of America.

**WHO:** AARP and its Members will discuss their concerns about losing consumer protections when switching to an ESCO.

The Public Utility Law Project

**WHEN:** **Thursday, December 19, 2002 at 11:00 am**

**WHERE:** **Room 130 - LCA Press Room – Legislative Office Building, First Floor, Albany, New York.**

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